Statement from Lori Goodnature, wife of Corey Goodnature

Our family appreciates the overwhelming and sincere outpouring of sympathy from the local community at this very difficult time. Your support is appreciated as we mourn the loss of Corey – a devoted husband, a loving father and dedicated Night Stalker.

Corey was a hero. He served his nation for 14 years, and spent seven of those doing what he particularly loved to do – flying with fellow Night Stalkers and supporting Special Operations forces. There is no question that Corey believed in what he was doing. He never doubted why he was there. Corey died doing something he deeply believed in. I want the nation to know that Corey was not just "my" hero – he was a true hero.

While we sincerely appreciate the nation's interest in Corey's life and his contributions to this great nation, we ask that the media respect our privacy and allow us time to grieve.